

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONTINUOUSLY AND ENDLESSLY
VULCANIZING RUBBER HOSE

Serial No. 09/768,024

Filing Date: January 23, 2001

FAX CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the Election was faxed to:
703-872-9310 on October 15, 2002.

Kenneth L. Mitchell

Kenneth L. Mitchell, 36,873

Applicants: Harcourt et al.

Assignee: SNAP-TITE TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Art Unit: 1733

EXAMINER: JESSICA L. ROSSI

Atty Docket No. 8008

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GROUP 1700
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ELECTION

Applicants respond to the restriction requirement mailed September 13, 2002. As this response is being faxed on October 15, 2002 which follows a federal holiday which in turn follows October 13, 2002 which fell on a Sunday, no extension fee or petition to extend the time is deemed necessary. However, if for some reason a petition to extend time and fee is deemed necessary by the office, then this shall be considered a conditional petition to extend time and authorization to charge deposit account 23-3060 is hereby granted.

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute the claims set forth in Group I.

Applicant further provisionally elects to prosecute the species of claims 7 (hot air heater)

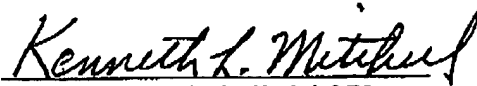
and 13 (steam heater).

Although applicants have not traversed the restriction and election requirements, applicants believe that the statements made in paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the office action are factually and legally incorrect. For example, the Examiner's statement in paragraph 2 of the office action, namely, "...the hose could be made by a variety of processes, as disclosed in the Admitted Prior Art (page 1, line 9)..." is not correct. The patent application doesn't expressly or impliedly make or support the aforementioned statement made by the Examiner. Applicants further believe that the Examiner's statements set forth in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the office action are factually and legally incorrect.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider rejoinder of the claims in the future.

Please contact the undersigned by phone if any matter in this application can be expedited or if there are any questions.

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